

## Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

For Immediate Release March 18, 2013

Contact: Supervisor David Cullen, 414-278-4263

Or david.cullen@milwcnty.com

## SUPERVISOR DAVID CULLEN CALLS FOR AUDIT OF PARATRANSIT CONTRACT Audit to Evaluate the Fiscal Impact of Emergency Paratransit contract

(MILWAUKEE) – Supervisor David Cullen issued the following statement regarding the reported \$8.6 million cost of emergency para-transit contracts:

"The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported on March 17 that "taxpayers will shell out nearly \$8.6 million more than they should on rides for Milwaukee County residents with disabilities over the next three years."

"This is an example of what can happen when the County Board is not involved in oversight of contracts. Clearly, not enough scrutiny took place to prevent this apparent cost over-run. While the County Board does not negotiate contracts, it is clear that the Board should have a role in overseeing them. Oversight leads to transparency and can prevent such waste.

"It makes no sense that an emergency contract would last for three years. I want to know what could have been done to make the process more open and transparent.

"I believe an audit of this emergency contract should be performed to determine just how the Transit System apparently spent more than \$8 million more than they needed to on an emergency contract that will last three years. We need to prevent this from happening again. I will introduce a resolution at Thursday's County Board meeting to authorize and direct the Director of Audits to initiate an audit of the procurement of paratransit services on behalf of the Milwaukee County Transit System."